USDA – National Agricultural Statistics Service, Tennessee Field Office

Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin

Cooperating with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

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FARMERS MAKE EXCELLENT PLANTING PROGRESS

Typical springtime weather returned to much of the State last week, as temperatures bounced back after two weeks of unseasonably cool, wet weather. With nearly the whole week of access to their fields, farmers had an outstanding week of planting. In fact, planting progress for all of the State's major row crops has now pushed ahead of the normal schedule. Cotton farmers had their second consecutive excellent week for planting with over half of the crop planted over the past 14 days. Soybean farmers also picked up the pace, capping off the week with two-thirds of their acreage planted. Soybeans were developing nearly 4 days ahead of the normal pace. As of Sunday, nearly the entire corn crop had emerged and was rated in mostly good-to-excellent condition. Winter wheat continued its rapid development and was turning color a few days ahead of the normal pace. Many hay farmers were still faced with harvest delays and await drier conditions to get caught up. Pastures were rated in mostly good condition.

There were 5 days suitable for fieldwork last week. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 6 percent short, 76 percent adequate, and 18 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 10 percent short, 77 percent adequate, and 13 percent surplus. Temperatures averaged near normal to slightly above normal for much of the State, but well above normal in West Tennessee. Precipitation averaged slightly below normal across the Plateau and East Tennessee, but averaged above normal in Middle and West Tennessee.

CROP PROGRESS: Through May 28, 2006

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2005	Five Year Avg.
	Percent			
Corn Emerged	96	92	97	96
Cotton Planted	90	64	98	85
Hay 1st Cutting	44	24	68	56
Soybeans Planted	65	36	79	48
Soybeans Emerged	37	18	49	30
Tobacco Transplanted	43	24	60	53
Winter Wheat Turning Color	85	50	61	69

CONDITION: On May 26, 2006

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
			Percent		
Corn	0	3	20	50	27
Cotton	3	9	21	64	3
Hay	2	9	32	51	6
Pastures	1	4	20	62	13
Winter Wheat	1	5	16	55	23

County Agent Comments

"The farmers in Fayette County were able to make good progress this week in planting cotton and soybeans. Some replanting went on, but that too is almost finished. The crops are looking better with the warmer temperatures and sunny days. We need a rain, getting dry in parts of the county."

Jeffery D. Via, Fayette County

"Almost all cotton planted prior to May 13-14 has been or will be replanted due to poor seedling emergence or health."

Richard Buntin, Crockett County

"Producers made excellent use of dry weather and sunshine this week in the planting of field crops. Corn planting and replanting has finished up, with some producers switching to grain sorghum. Wheat color has changed dramatically this week and harvest could begin very soon."

Jeff Lannom, Weakley County

"Scattered showers did not slow down the tobacco setting for local producers. However, they will affect our already lower quality hay crop."

Ronnie Barron, Cheatham County

"For corn, a week of warm weather has made a tremendous difference in the crop. Producers are scrambling to finish up nitrogen applications and weed control before the corn gets too big. The crop is in excellent condition with no major problems."

Ed Burns, Franklin County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION
For week ending: May 28, 2006 (with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				GDD BASE 60F Since April 1	
	Week Ending May 28, 2006				Current Week 05/28/06	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal		
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN					Total	DFN
Ames_Plantation	91	64	78	7	0.03	1	22.47	-1.59	476	119
Tri-City_RGNL_A	85	39	65	-2	0.56	2	16.70	-0.45	169	19
Brownsville_TN	92	64	78	7	1.00	2	23.99	-0.22	499	259
Chattanooga/Lov	91	54	74	5	0.88	4	18.59	-5.44	416	150
Clarksville_Sew	92	53	74	6	1.24	4	19.67	-2.35	365	101
Cookeville	88	45	69	2	0.32	3	22.87	-1.76	219	109
Covington	92	64	77	7	0.23	1	21.91	-2.18	447	117
Crossville_AP	85	46	68	4	0.67	4	22.38	-2.15	222	74
Dayton	88	49	70	2	0.63	3	19.53	-5.79	258	33
Dickson_AG	88	51	72	4	1.33	3	21.47	-2.24	311	33
Dover_1W	88	54	72	4	3.35	3	21.48	-1.54	314	93
Dyersburg	93	63	78	6	4.47	3	23.42	1.50	512	137
Erwin_1W	83	43	65	2	2.53	2	23.27	3.60	163	-40
Huntingdon_Wate	90	59	75	6	1.91	2	20.99	-2.07	388	156
Jackson_Exp_Stn	90	60	76	6	1.83	3	23.01	-0.36	456	148
Kingston_AG	89	45	70	5	0.63	2	23.69	-1.83	278	106
Knoxville_AP	87	47	70	3	0.18	2	19.32	-1.46	326	117
Lewisburg	92	49	73	6	0.92	2	21.75	-2.68	343	131
Lexington_TN	89	59	75	6	2.68	3	22.54	0.09	380	262
Linden	89	57	74	7	0.47	2	22.61	-2.27	352	113
Martin	91	59	74	6	2.61	3	24.47	1.83	358	82
Mc_Minnville_TN	90	49	73	5	0.93	5	25.98	2.47	369	32
Memphis_AG	94	65	80	7	0.57	1	24.67	1.16	523	81
Milan	92	58	76	7	2.00	2	21.88	-1.56	420	146
Murfreesboro_5N	90	51	71	3	1.38	2	25.38	2.23	343	-23
Nashville_Metro	89	51	73	3	0.90	3	19.76	-1.30	415	119
Newcomb	86	41	66	3	1.57	2	21.49	-1.63	173	59
Oneida	86	43	66	3	1.08	4	21.17	-1.95	179	-91
Portland_TN	89	51	71	4	0.16	3	18.39	-3.97	265	59
Pulaski_Water_P	90	54	74	4	1.04	3	23.76	-0.74	350	38
Savannah_6SW	92	61	76	6	0.90	2	24.87	-1.29	446	194
Sparta_TN	89	45	71	5	1.25	3	27.50	3.47	316	137
Springfield	89	48	70	3	0.44	3	22.46	0.85	242	39
Springhill	90	51	73	6	0.51	3	24.11	-0.61	334	126
Union_City	91	60	74	5	3.80	3	27.10	4.65	338	73
Waynesboro_TN	88	55	73	6	0.42	2	25.73	-0.48	321	36

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). GDD = Growing Degree Days.
Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

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